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ABSTRACT

This guide assists Internet users in searching for quality information sources available via the Internet and assessing the quality of materials. Chapter 1 provides an introduction and background to the concept of quality in relation to the information available via the Internet. Chapter 2 presents a guide to the different types of online search facilities that are available, a description of some examples and how they work, their respective advantages and disadvantages, and what to use when attempting to find high-quality materials. Chapter 3 focuses on assessing quality; it is divided into ten areas of evaluation (e.g., accuracy, currency, ease of use) that require consideration in the evaluation of any information source on the Internet. Chapter 4 is concerned with evaluating different types of information sources (e.g., organizational World Wide Web sites, personal home pages, subject-based Web sites, electronic journals); evaluation criteria specific to each information source type and detailed notes on application and use are included. The final part of the book is an annotated bibliography of other guidelines available for selecting and evaluating Internet-based information sources. A glossary of relevant terms and an index are also included. (AEF)

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